

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A layered floor panel, comprising a substrate, ~~[[and]]~~ one or more layers on top of said substrate and at least one backing layer underneath said substrate;[[,]]

said one or more layers at least comprising a wear resistant surface layer filled with wear resistant additives as a top layer and a decorative covering layer, at least one of the layers on top of said substrate comprising a synthetic material extending over the whole surface of the panel, wherein said material is consolidated by pressure with one or more of the other layers and/or the substrate and wherein the panel contains at least one antistatic agent evenly distributed in said synthetic material over the whole surface of the panel including a sheet of paper printed with a decorative pattern below said wear resistant surface layer;

both said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer including synthetic material and extending over substantially the whole surface of the panel; wherein

at least said wear resistant surface layer, said decorative covering layer, said substrate and said backing layer are consolidated by pressure and form a plate-shaped direct pressure laminate (DPL); and wherein

the floor panel contains at least one antistatic agent uniformly dissolved and evenly distributed in said synthetic material of at least one of said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said wear resistant surface layer is a transparent layer including a sheet of paper whereby said agent is uniformly dispersed or dissolved in said material.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein the antistatic agent is dissolved in water and wherein whereby the obtained solution is

mixed into the synthetic material.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said antistatic agent comprises a chemical composition of the type R-X with an hydrophobic organic radical R at one extremity of the molecule chain and with at the other extremity a chain moiety or rest comprising an element X, which rest has a limited affinity for water.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 4, wherein said composition is a carbonic acid salt or carbonic acid ester, the carboxylate-rest $[-\text{COO}]_n\text{X}$ of which has a limited affinity for water.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 5, whereby the carbonic acid is an alkane acid with one to five C atoms.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 5, whereby the acid is unsaturated with one to five C atoms.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 6, whereby the salt is or includes potassium formiate (HCOOK) or sodium formiate (HCOONa) or a mixture of both.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said agent comprises a salt.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 9, wherein said salt is used in combination with the composition of the type R-X.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 9, wherein said

salt is NaCl.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 9, wherein said salt is KCl or a combination of NaCl and KCl.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein the quantity of said antistatic agents in the synthetic material is at least 2.5 g/m² of the covered surface.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein at least said wear resistant surface layer comprises said antistatic agent ~~the decorative covering layer carries a surface layer, and at least said surface layer comprises a synthetic resin and a wear resistant additive.~~

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1 ~~[[14]]~~, wherein at least said decorative covering layer comprises ~~a synthetic resin wherein said antistatic agent agents are distributed.~~

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 15 ~~[[14]]~~, wherein both said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer comprise ~~(4) comprises a synthetic resin wherein said antistatic agent agents are distributed.~~

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 15 ~~[[14]]~~, wherein whereby only said decorative covering layer comprises ~~a synthetic resin wherein said antistatic agent agents are distributed~~, whereas ~~[[the]]~~ said resistant surface layer, at least before its application onto the panel, is free of such agents.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 15, wherein the

concentration of the antistatic agents is highest at the interface of said covering layer and the surface layer.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 16 [[14]], wherein concentrations of said antistatic agent are present in both layers and wherein the concentration of the antistatic agent is higher in said covering layer than in the surface layer.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said antistatic agent is a water soluble substance ~~the substrate comprises material selected from glued and pressed wood-based boards.~~

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein the decorative covering layer is a paper layer impregnated with melamine resin.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 14, wherein said surface layer comprises a melamine or ureum resin or a mixture of both.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 21, wherein said antistatic agent is partially taken up in the impregnating resin for the decorative covering layer.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said wear resistant surface layer is a synthetic material layer of a transparent melamine resin, free of paper sheets, and wherein said wear resistant additives are incorporated in said synthetic material layer at the outer surface of said decorative covering layer ~~including a substrate and a decorative covering layer without an additional surface layer on top of it and wherein wear resistant additives are incorporated at least in the outer surface of said covering layer, the antistatic agents being present in the body of said~~

~~covering layer and optionally at its interface with the substrate.~~

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, ~~wherein said backing layer is comprising a floor panel, wherein the decorative covering layer is a sheet of paper, impregnated with melamine resin, which is printed with a decorative pattern, and further wherein the surface layer comprises a transparent melamine resin and whereby the other side of the substrate is covered with a resin-impregnated paper backing layer.~~

26. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein~~[[.]]~~ ~~whereby~~ said antistatic agent is present in and/or on the substrate.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 25, ~~wherein whereby~~ said antistatic agent also is present in the backing layer.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~Panel~~ Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said antistatic agent is present in an additional layer, said additional layer comprising a synthetic material disposed between the substrate and the covering layer.

29. (Currently Amended) Method ~~A method~~ for manufacturing ~~[[a]]~~ the layered floor panel of recited in claim 1, wherein said wear resistant surface layer, said decorative covering layer and said backing layer include a resin impregnated paper layer; wherein at least said wear resistant surface layer, said decorative covering layer, said substrate and said backing layer are stacked upon each other and consolidated to form a plate-shaped direct pressure laminate (DPL) by means of hot pressing; said method at least the layers are stacked as self-supporting sheets upon each other, in a desired sequence, and are consolidated by means of hot pressing, comprising the step of steps:

directly dosing and mixing said antistatic agent with a suitable quantity into the

impregnating composition for said resin impregnated paper layer of at least one of said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer;

~~previous to said stacking, said antistatic agent is directly dosed with a suitable quantity and mixed into the impregnating composition for any of the self-supporting sheets of the top or surface layer and/or of the decorative covering layer, after which these impregnated sheets are dried~~ impregnating said paper layers and thereafter drying said resin impregnated paper layers before said stacking and consolidating.

30. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 29, wherein said antistatic agent also is mixed into the impregnating composition for the sheet of the backing layer and/or into an additional layer.

31. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 29, wherein the upper surface of the decorative layer is sprayed with a solution of the antistatic agent and further covered with a surface layer comprising wear resistant additives.

32. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 31, wherein the wear resistant additives are distributed in the lower part of said surface layer.

33. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 32, wherein said surface layer is a self supporting cellulose fiber sheet impregnated with melamine and/or ureum resin having in its lower part wear resistant corundum particles distributed therein.

34. (Currently Amended) Method for manufacturing a layered panel, wherein the various layers are stacked as self-supporting sheets upon each other, in a desired sequence, and are consolidated by means of hot-pressing, wherein, previous to said stacking, ~~said~~ antistatic agent is dosed with ~~[[the]]~~ a suitable quantity in ~~[[the]]~~ an underside of ~~[[the]]~~ a covering layer by spraying the surface of ~~[[the]]~~ a core layer with a solution of said agent.

35. (New) Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said floor panel is provided with complementary milled-out edge profiles; said profiles allowing a mutual coupling of the adjacent panels in order to form a floating laminated floor.

36. (New) Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said wear resistant surface layer comprises a resin impregnated paper sheet.

37. (New) Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said substrate comprises material selected from the group consisting of glued and pressed wood-based board, MDF, HDF, particle board, OSB, wood and multiplex.

38. (New) Layered floor panel according to claim 1, wherein said substrate comprises gypsum plaster board or extruded wood.

39. (New) A layered floor panel, comprising a substrate, one or more layers on top of said substrate and at least one backing layer underneath said substrate;

said one or more layers at least comprising a wear resistant surface layer and a decorative covering layer with a decorative pattern;

both said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer including synthetic material and extending over substantially the whole surface of the panel; wherein

said substrate is a gypsum plaster board; and wherein

said floor panel is provided with complementary edge profiles; said profiles allowing a mutual coupling of the adjacent panels in order to form a floating laminated floor.

40. (New) The layered floor panel according to claim 39, wherein the floor panel contains at least one antistatic agent evenly distributed in said synthetic material of at least one of said wear resistant surface layer and said decorative covering layer.